Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-10
INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSF-02 OES-09 OMB-01 PA-02
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 /130 W
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O 240150Z AUG 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2958

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 03282

FROM LOSDEL

H FOR SENATOR GRIFFIN FROM AMBASSADOR ELLIOT RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS - DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION (S.2053)

DEAR SENATOR GRIFFIN:
I WAS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO YOU TODAY ABOUT THE DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION (S.2053). BEFORE IT IS MARKED UP BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS TOMORROW, I WOULD LIKE TO AMPLIFY MY VIEWS AND THOSE OF THE ADMINISTRATION ON THIS LEGISLATION.

WHILE THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE DID MAKE PROGRESS IN GENEVA, IT IS HIGHLY UNCERTAIN WHEN OR WHETHER AN ACCEPTABLE TREATY WILL BE SIGNED. IT IS CLEAR, IN ANY CASE, THAT SEVERAL YEARS WILL PASS AFTER THE TREATY IS SIGNED BEFORE IT ENTERS INTO FORCE, AND ADDITIONAL TIME WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY TO PROMULGATE ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS
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AND FINALLY APPROVE CONTRACTS.

IN THE MEANTIME, THERE IS A VERY REAL RISK THAT AMERICAN OCEAN MINING COMPANIES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUSTAIN THEIR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS UNDER THESE HIGHLY UNCERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. IN MY JUDGMENT, MOREOVER, THE CERTAIN PROSPECT OF DEEP SEA MINING WILL HELP

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TO STRENGTHEN THE SPIRIT OF REALITY AND COMPROMISE
WHICH HAS RECENTLY CHARACTERIZED THE LAW OF THE SEA
NEGOTIATIONS.

ALTHOUGH IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THERE WILL BE SOME
ADVERSE REACTIONS AT THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE TO THE
ENACTMENT OF THE PENDING LEGISLATION, I AM CONVINCED NOT
ONLY THAT IT IS IN OUR NATIONAL INTEREST FOR S.2053 TO BE
ENACTED INTO LAW AT THIS SESSION OF THE CONGRESS BUT
THAT THIS WILL ALSO ADVANCE THE INTEREST OF THE WORLD
COMMUNITY IN THE EARLIEST PRACTICABLE FULFILLMENT OF THE
COMMON HERITAGE.

AT THE SAME TIME, I MUST EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WHICH
THE ADMINISTRATION ATTACHES TO A NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS TO
S.2053 THAT WE BELIEVE WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE
BILL FROM THE STANDPOINT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. THE
ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEES MADE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVE-
MENTS IN THE BILL, BUT THE ADMINISTRATION BELIEVES
THAT THE FURTHER AMENDMENTS SET OUT IN MY
TESTIMONY OF AUGUST 17 BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE ARE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A SOUND SEABED
MINING PROGRAM FOR THE UNITED STATES.
I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT YOU WILL AGREE THAT PASSAGE AND
ENACTMENT OF S.2053 BY THE 95TH CONGRESS SERVE THE NATIONAL
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INTEREST AND THAT AS A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE YOU WILL LEND YOUR SUPPORT TO THIS END.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS I WOULD BE PLEASED TO
DISCUSS THEM WITH YOU. I MAY BE REACHED IN NEW YORK AT THE
FOLLOWING NUMBER: (212)826-5791.
WITH WARM REGARD,SINCERELY, ELLIOT
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
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